

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article comprising:

an absorbent sandwiched between a body fluid permeable surface member and a body fluid impermeable back member,

wherein said absorbent includes an upper layer and a lower layer disposed between said body fluid permeable surface member and said body fluid impermeable back member;

wherein said lower layer has a higher density than that of said upper layer by forming indented recesses in the lower layer of said absorbent that underlies said upper layer into a continuous honeycomb shape;

wherein said indented recesses are formed in linear portions having an angle of 45 degrees or less between an inclination direction of said indented recesses and a longitudinal direction of the article;

wherein said indented recesses have an emboss percentage of 30 to 55%, as determined by the ratio of the thicknesses before and after an embossing treatment;

wherein said lower layer extends beyond an outer edge of said upper layer; and

wherein said absorbent has relations of $B > C > A$, when said upper layer has a density A, a portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer has a density B, and the remaining portion of said lower layer that extends beyond the outer edge of said upper layer has a density C;

wherein the density A is 20 to 50 Kg/m³, the density B is 40 to 120 Kg/m³; and the density C is 20 to 60 Kg/m³ [[.]];

wherein the shortest mutual distance of said indented recesses is 3 mm or less.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein said indented recesses are formed in a body side face of said lower layer.
4. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein said indented recesses are formed in an opposite side face of body side face of said lower layer.
5. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein both a contact portion with said body fluid permeable surface member in said absorbent and a contact portion with said absorbent in said body fluid permeable surface member do not have a clearance, which might otherwise be caused by forming said indented recesses.
6. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein said body fluid permeable surface member is either a top sheet contacting with a body, or said top sheet and a second sheet sandwiched between said top sheet and said absorbent.
7. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein both a contact portion with said lower layer in said upper layer and a contact portion with said upper layer in said lower layer do not have any clearance, which might otherwise be caused by forming said indented recesses.
- 8-16. (canceled)
17. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein said indented recesses that extend from the side of the body fluid impermeable back member of said lower layer into said upper layer are formed in said absorbent.
18. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article comprising:
an absorbent sandwiched between a body fluid permeable surface member and a body fluid impermeable back member,

wherein said absorbent includes an upper layer and a lower layer disposed between said body fluid permeable surface member and said body fluid impermeable back member;

wherein said lower layer has a higher density than that of said upper layer by forming indented recesses in the lower layer of said absorbent that underlies said upper layer into a continuous honeycomb shape;

wherein said indented recesses are formed in linear portions having an angle of 45 degrees or less between an inclination direction of said indented recesses and a longitudinal direction of the article;

wherein said indented recesses have an emboss percentage of 30 to 55%, as determined by the ratio of the thicknesses before and after an embossing treatment;

wherein said lower layer has a width and a length and said upper layer has a width and a length;

wherein the width of said lower layer is greater than the width of said upper layer; and

wherein said absorbent has relations of $B > C > A$, when said upper layer has a density A, a portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer has a density B, and the remaining portion of said lower layer has a density C.

19. (previously presented) A body fluid absorbing article comprising:

an absorbent sandwiched between a body fluid permeable surface member and a body fluid impermeable back member,

wherein said absorbent includes an upper layer and a lower layer disposed between said body fluid permeable surface member and said body fluid impermeable back member;

wherein said lower layer has a higher density than that of said upper layer;

wherein said lower layer has a width and a length and said upper layer has a width and a length;

wherein the width of said lower layer is greater than the width of said upper layer; and

wherein said absorbent has relations of $B > A$ and $B > C$, when said upper layer has a density A, a portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer has a density B, and the remaining portion of said lower layer has a density C.

20. (new) The body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 1, wherein said density A is uniform along the entire upper layer, said density B is uniform along the portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer, and density C is uniform along the remaining portion of said lower layer that extends beyond the outer edge of said upper layer.

21. (new) The body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 18, wherein said density A is uniform along the entire upper layer, said density B is uniform along the portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer, and density C is uniform along the remaining portion of said lower layer that extends beyond the outer edge of said upper layer.

22. (new) The body fluid absorbing article as set forth in claim 19, wherein said density A is uniform along the entire upper layer, said density B is uniform along the portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer, and density C is uniform along the remaining portion of said lower layer that extends beyond the outer edge of said upper layer.

23. (new) A body fluid absorbing article comprising:

- an absorbent sandwiched between a body fluid permeable surface member and a body fluid impermeable back member,

- wherein said absorbent includes an upper layer and a lower layer disposed between said body fluid permeable surface member and said body fluid impermeable back member;

- wherein said lower layer has a higher density than that of said upper layer;

- wherein said lower layer has a width and a length and said upper layer has a width and a length;

- wherein the width of said lower layer is greater than the width of said upper layer; and

- wherein said absorbent has relations of $B > A$ and $B > C$, when said upper layer has substantially unvarying density A, a portion of said lower layer that underlies the upper layer has substantially unvarying density B, and the remaining portion of said lower layer has substantially unvarying density C.